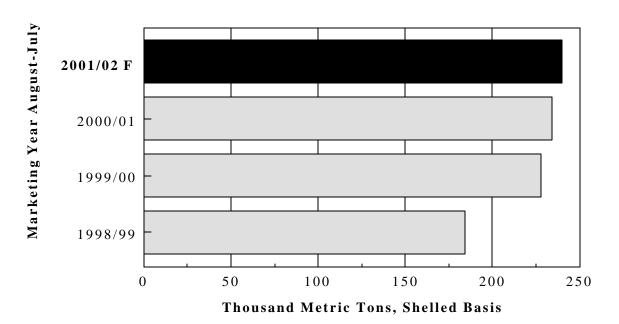


Foreign Agricultural Service

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World Horticultural Trade and U.S. Export Opportunities

U.S. Almond Exports Forecast to Continue to Increase in MY 2001/02



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census

U.S. almond exports in marketing year (MY) 2001/02 are forecast at nearly 240,000 tons, shelled basis, up 3 percent from shipments in MY2000/01. Increased production, anticipated lower prices, and strong overseas demand are expected to continue to expand U.S. almond shipments in 2001/02. In 2000/01, shelled almonds, including prepared and preserved, accounted for 91 percent of total U.S. almond exports. Major buyers of U.S. shelled almonds were the European Union (primarily Germany, Spain, and the Netherlands), accounting for 53 percent, and Asia (primarily, India, Japan, and China) purchasing 29 percent. Asia is the most significant importer of in-shell almonds, purchasing nearly 79 percent of U.S. in-shell exports in 2000/01. With support from the Market Access Program, the U.S. almond industry continues to dominate the export market. China was a success story during the 2000/01 season, with sales up 44 percent from the previous season's shipments. China is now the fourth largest market for U.S. almonds, following Germany, Spain, and India.

[Check Out the New U.S. Trade Internet System Website. Go to http://www.fas.usda.gov/ustrade]